

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 105465
ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 L-03
SS-15 NSC-05 /054 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AN:WARILEY:VLV
APPROVED BY EB/AN;RABROWN
CAB - RMILLER
EUR/EE - SFROMOWITZ
EB/OA - MHSTYLES

-----092204Z 102622 /73

P 092116Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, CZ

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - EXTENSION OF AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT

REF: (A) PRAGUE 1149; (B) STATE 042647

1. DEPT HAS CONSIDERED ZEMLA'S "INFORMAL" SUGGESTION THAT EFFORT TO EXTEND AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT BE SUSPENDED AND THAT FUTURE CONSULTATIONS TAKE PLACE UNDER ARTICLE XI. WE DO NOT BELIEVE SUCH CONSULTATIONS ARE NECESSARY TO REACH A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION TO CURRENT EFFORT TO EXTEND AGREEMENT AND ARE CONCERNED THAT SUSPENSION OF THE CURRENT EFFORT WOULD MEAN AN INDEFINITE PERIOD BEFORE EXTENSION COULD TAKE PLACE.

2. USG HAS BEEN FORTHCOMING ON SEVERAL POINTS SUGGESTED
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PAGE 02 STATE 105465

BY CZECHS, E.G., LIMITATION OF POINTS BEYOND PRAGUE TO SIX AND INFORMAL UNDERSTANDING THAT WE WILL CONSULT WITH CZECHS IF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE IN CIRCUMSTANCES TAKES PLACE. REGARDING 60-DAY TERMINATION PROCEDURE, WHILE IT IS DESIRABLE, SINCE IT WOULD PUT SOME PSYCHOLOGICAL PRESSURE ON CSA TO FULFILL QUOTA, IT IS OF LIMITED PRACTICAL VALUE SINCE ANY EFFECTIVE RETALIATION AGAINST CSA FOR FAILURE TO MEET

QUOTA WOULD INVOLVE LENGTHY CAB PROCEEDING WHICH WOULD EXCEED 60 DAYS.

3. IN THE INTEREST OF ENDING THIS LONG DRAWN OUT AFFAIR, USG IS PREPARED TO WITHDRAW THIS PORTION OF THE DRAFT NOTE IF THE CZECHS WILL AGREE TO: (A) PROMPTLY EXTEND THE ATA; (B) PERMIT PAN AM TO OPERATE WITH FULL TRAFFIC RIGHTS OVER THE PRAGUE-DAMASCUS ROUTE; AND (C) UNDERTAKE TO GIVE THE USG AN ORAL COMMITMENT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILL EXERT ITS BEST EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT CSA FULFILLS THE TWO-YEAR, TWO MILLION DOLLAR QUOTA. LETTER COULD BE PRESENTED AS A LOGICAL COUNTER TO GOC'S REQUEST FOR ORAL ASSURANCES.

4. EMBASSY REQUESTED INFORM ZEMLA OF USG REACTION TO HIS "INFORMAL" SUGGESTION AND COUNTER WITH OFFER THAT WE WILL DROP 60-DAY TERMINATION PROVISION IF HE WILL UNDERTAKE TO MAKE AN "INFORMAL", ORAL COMMITMENT THAT THE CZECH GOVT WILL DO ITS BEST TO SEE THAT CSA FULFILLS THE QUOTA. FURTHER CONDITIONS FOR DROPPING THE 60-DAY PROVISION ARE PRIOR AGREEMENT TO PROMPTLY EXTEND THE AGREEMENT AND GRANT TRAFFIC RIGHTS ON THE PRAGUE-DAMASCUS ROUTE. IF THESE CONDITIONS CAN BE MET AND IF EMBASSY IS CONFIDENT THAT MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT WILL POSE NO ADDITIONAL OBJECTIONS TO EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT, EMBASSY MAY FORMALLY TRANSMIT TEXT OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE ALONG LINES REF (B) TO MFA MINUS PARA 3. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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